



OLDA MINUTES

April 2, 2009

Attendance.

Present: Chair Mowry, Carr, Pederson, Haggerty, Christianson, Anderson, Cappiello, Bierwerth, Sevig, Thompson

Absent: Hall, Rude,

Introductions.

KammueUler resigned her position representing Ward 5. Staff will contact other applicants to gauge interest in the vacancy.

Review & Approve Minutes. No approval vote taken

New Business: Review committee purpose

Jan Carr feels the 2008 task force recommendations are irrelevant to Parks and Recreation. Liz Cappiello disagreed and feels this committee is a good effort. Staff reiterated that the purpose of this committee is NOT to identify new OLDA sites – but rather to help educate the public and City that off-leash recreation is legitimate and needed. This can be accomplished through public information, hosting of special events designed to highlight the benefits and to counter the negative perceptions.

Upper Landing Park- Staff stated this site has been suggested as a possible off-leash area. The question is whether it is worthy of serious consideration. The site is below the Lafayette Bridge on the north side of the river. There is open space, but the parking lot is quite a distance from the actual area where the activity would be provided. Jan Carr felt the committee should continue to look at various sites throughout the City.

Subcommittee Reports

Events Subcommittee

What are the benefits to an off-leash area, especially for non-dog people?

- crime prevention
- increased sense of local community
- socialized neighborhood dogs
- increased property values
- a centralized site for activity

This was followed by more discussion about “destination” parks VS. community/neighborhood parks.

Liz Cappiello suggested a brochure which promotes the benefits of OLDA’s. Bill

Anderson agreed that there are opportunities of which the group should take advantage.

OLDA Committee Minutes
April, 2009

- ❖ Liz Cappiello moved a sub committee work to develop a brochure with promotional information for distribution.
 - Place for distribution at park facilities, libraries, the City web page and district councils;
 - Brochure should state the purpose of this committee and how citizens can participate;
 - Include a generic e-mail address for people to get more information;
 - Utilize other non-committee members;
 - The general public would be the target audience for the brochure;
 - Used to connect the public with the committee for further information;
 - Include information about fundraising for additional dog parks

Vote: All in favor/none opposed.

Lilydale Subcommittee.

Site visit scheduled for Sunday, April 5th

There seems to be support for a “trial” of the proposed off-leash area – This is an issue for the Parks Commission to review and approve.

Design and OLDA Committee should study criteria.

Arlington/Arkwright Report

Annual clean-up day is Saturday, April 11th

Posted hours of Sunrise to Sunset is causing – because people want to use it longer

- ❖ Bill Anderson moved to change the posted hours at Arlington/Arkwright to Sunrise to 9 PM year ‘round. Cappiello seconded. Vote: 8-0.

(Betsy will present at the April commission meeting).

Liz Cappiello noted the park needs wood chips.

St. Paul Conservancy

This is an option for fundraising and donations. The idea could be used for Lilydale, Arlington/Arkwright and other sites.

Motion to Adjourn: Bill Anderson. Seconded: Christiansen. Vote: 6-0.

Next meeting – Thursday, May 7th